

Tom Horne
Superintendent

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ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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**ARIZONA SCHOOLS CHIEF TOM HORNE DELIVERS STATE OF EDUCATION –
EMPHASIZES NEED FOR PARTNERSHIP WITH LAWMAKERS TO SUPPORT THREE NEW
INITIATIVES: PERSONALIZED LEARNING PLANS; LAPTOP PILOT PROGRAM; AND
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS**

PHOENIX (Wednesday, January 24, 2007) -- Arizona Schools Chief Tom Horne today delivered his fourth annual “State of Education”. Horne will briefly review his three initiatives from last year and announce three new initiatives for this year. Each of the initiatives has a legislative component to them and Horne will be stressing the importance of partnership with the Legislature in order to ensure success.

“Each of the three new initiatives will advance excellence in Arizona education. We want to take steps to make sure that our students are prepared for the 21st century demands for college, or for the work force, both of which require much higher intellectual attainments,” Horne stated.

Horne’s three new initiatives: Personalized Learning Plans, that will give each student a roadmap from the seventh grade onward so that they know what to expect for college entrance or for the job market; Laptop Pilot Program, so teachers can better prepare students for the digital economy where every student has his or her own laptop; and International Schools, students will begin a language in kindergarten, and a second language in ninth grade, combined with international studies and exchange programs.

[Click here](#) for a complete copy of Horne’s speech.

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